

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An aqueous ink composition comprising a hydrophilic organic solvent, a surfactant, and a colored fine particle dispersion which contains an oil-soluble dye, and exhibiting a dynamic surface tension of 25 to 35 mN/m.
2. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the colored fine particles contain the oil-soluble dye and an oil-soluble polymer.
3. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the oil-soluble dye has a melting point of 200°C or less.
4. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the oil-soluble dye is selected from the group consisting of an anthraquinone-type dye, a naphthoquinone-type dye, a styryl-type dye, an indoaniline-type dye, an azo-type dye, a nitro-type dye, a coumarin-type dye, a methine-type dye, a porphyrin-type dye, an azaporphyrin-type dye and a phthalocyanine-type dye.
5. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 4, wherein the dye is contained in an amount of 0.05 to 50% by mass relative to the ink composition.
6. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 2, wherein the

oil-soluble polymer has a carboxyl group as a dissociative group.

7. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 2, wherein the oil-soluble polymer has a molecular weight (Mw) of 1,000 to 200,000.

8. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 2, wherein the oil-soluble polymer is selected from the group consisting of a vinyl polymer, polyurethane and polyester.

9. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 2, wherein the oil-soluble polymer is used in an amount of 10 to 1,000 parts by mass relative to 100 parts by mass of the oil-soluble dye.

10. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the colored fine particles are contained in an amount of 1 to 45% by mass relative to the colored fine particle dispersion.

11. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein an average particle diameter of the colored fine particles is 1 to 500 nm.

12. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of a polyvalent alcohol, an aliphatic monovalent alcohol, a heterocyclic compound and a sulfur-containing compound.

13. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic organic solvent is contained in an amount of 5 to 60% by mass relative to the ink composition.
14. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein a molecular weight of the surfactant is 200 to 1,000.
15. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the surfactant is contained in an amount of 0.5 to 5.0% by mass relative to the ink composition.
16. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, further comprising an additive selected from the group consisting of a neutralizing agent, a hydrophobic high-boiling point organic solvent, a dispersant and a dispersion stabilizer.
17. The aqueous ink composition according to claim 1, wherein a viscosity of the ink is 30 mPa·s or less.
18. An ink-jet recording method comprising a step of carrying out recording using an aqueous ink composition which comprises a hydrophilic organic solvent, a surfactant, and a colored fine particle dispersion containing an oil-soluble dye, and exhibits a dynamic surface tension of 25 to 35 mN/m.

19. The ink-jet recording method according to claim 18, using a system selected from the group consisting of a charge regulating system, a drop-on-demand system, an acoustic ink-jet system and a thermal ink-jet system.

20. The ink-jet recording method according to claim 18, wherein a material to undergo recording is selected from the group consisting of a plain paper, a coated paper and a plastic film.